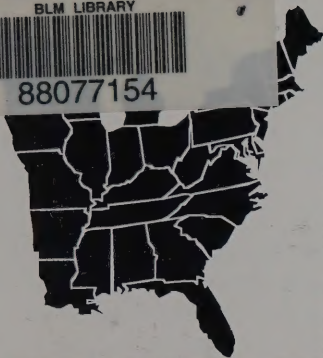




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EASTERN STATES VANTAGE *Special Edition*

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U. S. Department of the Interior



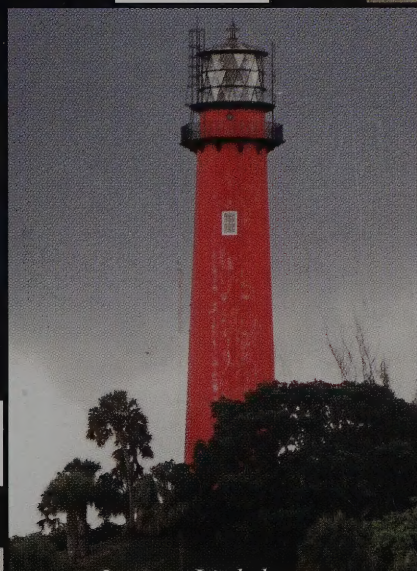
Bureau of Land Management



America's Living Legends



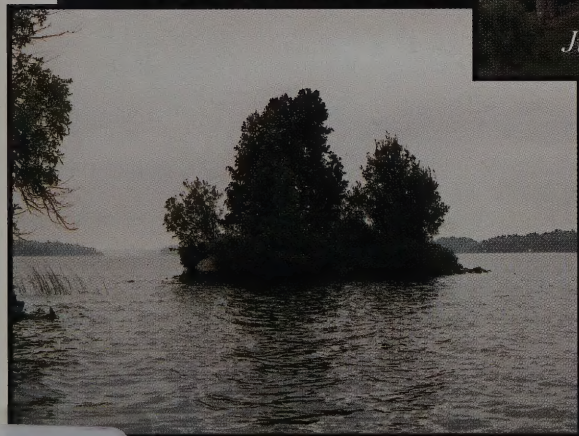
Cadastral Survey



Jupiter Lighthouse



Oil and Gas Drilling Rig



Lake Vermilion Islands

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Guardians of the Past — Stewards for the Future



Welcome to Eastern States

In this special edition of Vantage, I would like to tell you about some of our priorities and accomplishments. We have been busy and have had a productive year.

To begin, our work at Eastern States is guided by the principles of stewardship, customer service, partnerships, technical excellence, communication, and human resource development. Being responsible for the stewardship of our Public Lands and resources, we are committed to managing, protecting, and improving these lands and resources to serve the needs of the American people now and in future generations.

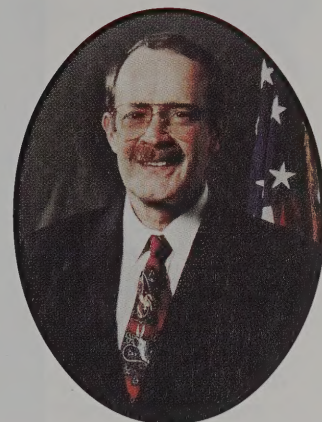
The hard work and dedication of the Eastern States staff in Springfield, Virginia; Jackson, Mississippi; Milwaukee, Wisconsin; Rolla, Missouri; our new Tennessee Project Office; and small, scattered cadastral survey and minerals project offices, makes all our accomplishments possible. Additionally, I would like to thank our partners — other Federal and State Agencies, the many volunteers, and private companies and organizations who helped us to achieve our successes.

We continued work on priorities such as automation of the General Land Office (GLO) Records Project; pioneered offering more wild horses and burros for adoption on the Internet; implemented new compliance requirements to make sure wild horses and burros are being kept in good homes; and generated \$26.8 million from mineral leasing in FY 1998.

This year, the GLO Records Web Site Development Team received Vice President Al Gore's National Performance Review Hammer Award for its creation of an Internet on-line research tool for public land managers, historians, surveyors, and genealogists. The Team also received the Department's Information Technology Award in recognition of outstanding achievement in support of the mission of the Department of the Interior.

Our office unveiled an educational, interactive exhibit featuring the BLM's National Wild Horse and Burro Program at the Kentucky Horse Park. The interactive, multimedia program also became available on CD-ROM just in time for the EQUITANA, U.S.A. event in Lexington, Kentucky and won second Place for the EQUITANA Enterprise Awards Program. This event is the largest equine exposition in the United States.

We received national recognition on the Hatfield-McCoy Trail Project in West Virginia. The project is a cooperative effort among the State of West Virginia, the local citizenry, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the BLM to develop the longest trail system in the United States.



We made 181 contacts with Congressional offices to present information on our activities. We continued to work closely with our partners, State and local officials in the East, and other corporate and national organizations such as the Eastern Lands and Resource Council, Outdoor Writers of America Association, Piney Woods School, Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority, Miner Elementary School, Washington, D.C. Urban Treehouse, America's Outdoors, The First Tee/World Golf Foundation and the Betty Brinn Children's Museum in Wisconsin.

Our Jackson Hotshot Fire Crew, an elite and brave group of 20 men and women, trained once again for another summer fire season, and were immediately dispatched to the Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge in the southeast. Their talents were also extensively used in the Great Basin.

We are currently pursuing a wild horse and burro environmental education facility in Fairfax County in the Lorton, Virginia area. This facility would be designed and operated with the interests of the local community and the adjoining Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority. In addition, a wild horse and burro facility was established in central Mississippi with our long-time partner, Piney Woods School.

We look forward to the opportunities and challenges in the next fiscal year. We will continue to provide quality customer service and good stewardship, improve our working relationships, and seek better ways to do business.

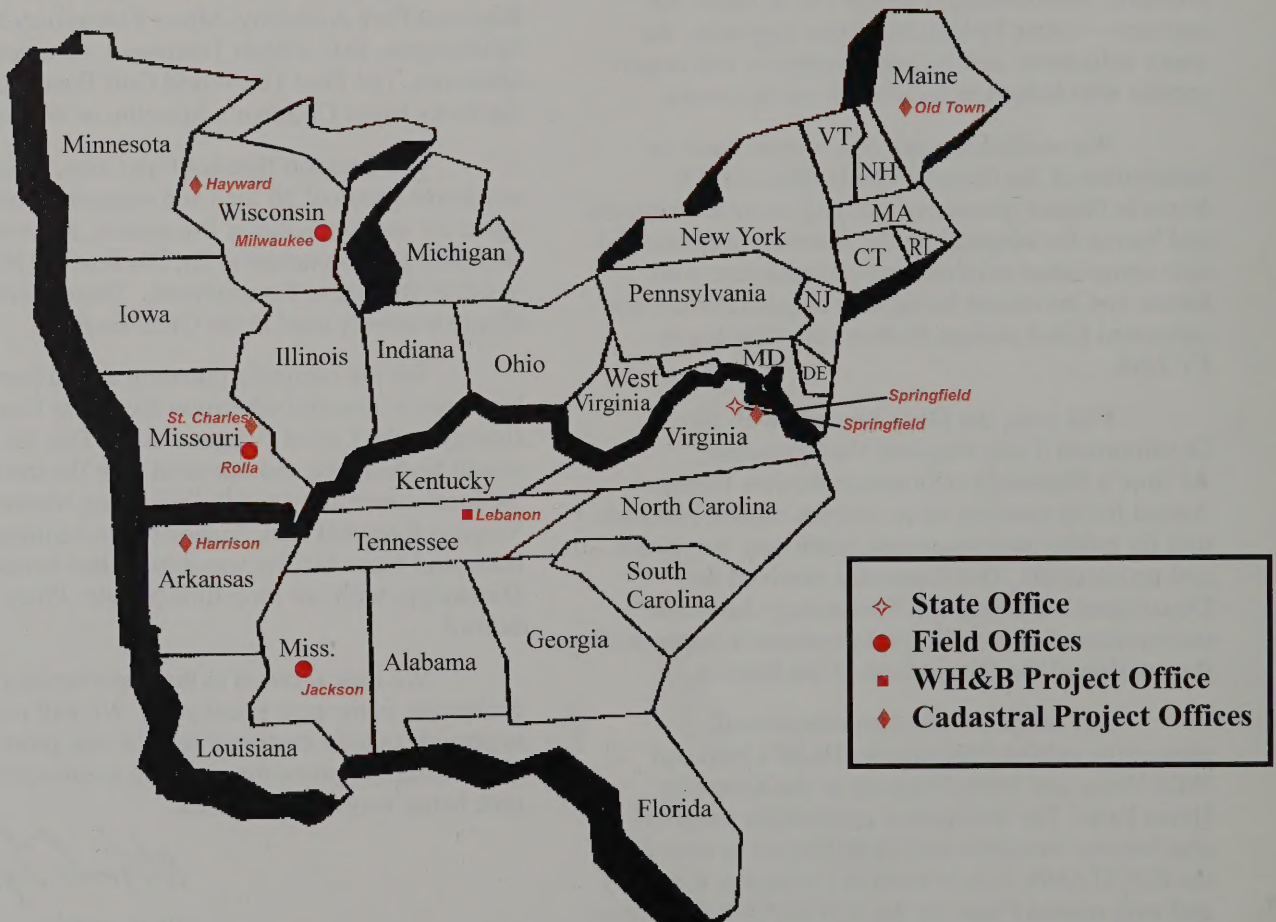
W. Hord Tipton
Director, Eastern States

BLM Library
Denver Federal Center
Bldg. 50, OC-521
P.O. Box 25047
Denver, CO 80225

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Who We Are & What We Do.....	3
Programs	4-10
Places	10
Budget	11
Partnerships	12-15
Environmental Education & Communication	15-17
People	17-18
Technology	19
Awards	19
Address Listing	20

Eastern States Office & Area of Jurisdiction



Who We Are & What We Do



WILD HORSES & BURROS • CADASTRAL SURVEY • GENERAL LAND OFFICE RECORDS • MINERALS • RENEWABLE RESOURCES



The BLM's Eastern States office is responsible for the stewardship of public lands and resources in the 31 States east of, and bordering on, the Mississippi River. This includes 30,000 surface acres of public lands and more than 39 million acres of subsurface Federal mineral estate. The location of the surface acreage managed by BLM-Eastern States makes this land significant. In the highly populated East, BLM public lands are of prime importance for recreation and partnerships with local governments.

We maintain more than 9 million historic General Land Office (GLO) records, dating back to 1787, which chronicle the settlement of the United States. These records are extensively used by title and abstract companies, historians, researchers, and genealogists. We are a pioneer in the automation and preservation of historical records through our GLO Automated Records Project, known as "Preserving America's Heritage." We have produced CD-ROMs containing records for nine states, with more to come. Visitors from all over the world have visited our office in Springfield, Virginia, to learn about our system of records preservation and access. Internet access to the GLO Web site continues to be successful, taking more than 34 million "hits" to date.

We conduct legal boundary surveys for the Federal Government, including boundary determination work for many other Federal Agencies, such as the National Park Service, Bureau of Indian Affairs, and Tribal Governments. We work with the University of Maine to develop software for survey applications that are used nationwide.

We oversee the leasing and environmentally safe development of Federal minerals in 21 Eastern States. Various forms of development — coal mining, oil and gas exploration and production, and lead and zinc mining — provide jobs in local communities while supplying minerals that America needs. We hold quarterly oil and gas lease sales in different locations in the 31-State region. We are also working jointly with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the U.S. Forest Service to correct the persistent problem of abandoned or "orphan" wells on acquired lands; thus, in FY 1999, we cooperatively plugged three orphan wells in Ohio, Pennsylvania, and West Virginia.

We have successfully managed recreation sites such as Lake Vermilion Islands in Minnesota, scenic beaches in Florida, and historic lighthouses in the Great Lakes and along the Florida Coast through cooperative management agreements with State and local governments. We also work with local governments on the issuance of leases under the Recreation and Public Purposes Act, which enables communities to develop recreational sites on public lands. In West Virginia, we have a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Hatfield-McCoy Trail Project, where we provide expertise for the development of a privately and State-funded off-highway vehicle trail on private land.

About two-thirds of the gathered wild horses and burros are adopted in the East. These adoptions are made possible by using one contract adoption center, a project office, and about 30 temporary site adoption events. More than 3,100 wild horses and burros are placed in good homes each year. In FY 1999, we implemented new compliance requirements to ensure that adopted wild horses and burros are in good, caring homes. To date, we have held 4 successful Internet adoptions.

One of our highlights is the close continuing work with State and local governments, primarily with the Eastern Lands and Resources Council (ELRC), an organization of State land commissioners and departments of natural resources. We play a key role in the annual fall meeting with ELRC and also at the annual spring meeting, which includes the Western States Land Commissioners Association.

Partnerships, environmental education, and public outreach are also priorities for us at Eastern States. We promote stewardship of the Public Lands through environmental education camps and by working with school officials and students. In addition, by sponsoring such events as the annual National Public Lands Day, we develop partnerships in the Eastern States that will carry the message of good land stewardship to current and future generations of Americans.

Programs

Cadastral Survey

This year, we continued to survey, identify, and maintain the legal boundaries for all Federal land management agencies in our 31-State area of jurisdiction. Cadastral Survey work resulted in 337 miles of survey and 903 monuments established. The crews worked with other BLM offices; U.S. Forest Service; National Park Service in Washington, D.C. and Harrison, Arkansas; U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in St. Charles, Missouri; and the Bureau of Indian Affairs in Hayward, Wisconsin and Old Town, Maine to facilitate the management of Federal surface and subsurface estates.



*Surveyors taking measurements
on Florida beaches.*

We established a Cadastral Survey Project Office in the State of Maine based on an Interagency Agreement with the Bureau of Indian Affairs. The project office will survey and monument the boundaries of lands taken into trust for the Passamaquoddy Tribe, the Penobscot Nation, the Aroostook Band of Micmacs and the Houlton Band of Maliseets Indians in Maine. The agreement will continue for a 5-year period.

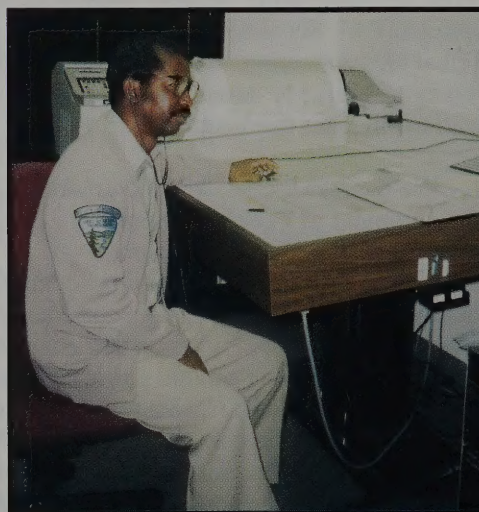
We assisted the U.S. Department of Justice in support of litigation concerning New York State Indian Land Claims on behalf of the Oneida and Seneca Nations. This was achieved through a negotiated Interagency Agreement with the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

The Choctaw Initial Point was re-established in the State of Mississippi in partnership with Mississippi State University and the Mississippi Association of Professional Surveyors.

We served as lead for the University of Maine Assistance Agreement by providing applied technical support for Bureauwide Cadastral and Geographic Coordinate Data Base (GCDB) systems software. Seventy Townships of GCDB data were collected in high priority areas in the States of Arkansas and Michigan. We continued outreach efforts to various states, counties, and the private sector in support of partnerships for GCDB data collection.

We continued to give support to field offices on cadastral survey related issues such as island issues in the Lake States and trespass cases in Arkansas and Florida. Swampland determinations were also performed on three tracts of land in Louisiana.

We also provided technical training on cadastral survey issues to the Alabama Society of Professional Land Surveyors and the National Park Service, National Capital Region.



*Digitizing survey corners from USGS
quad maps for GCDB computations.*

General Land Office (GLO)

We maintain in our office more than 2,000 tract books containing land records for the 13 Public Domain States in the East: Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Louisiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Mississippi, Ohio and Wisconsin. These documents include homesteads, cash sales, military warrants and other conveyance papers that date back to the late 1700's and are used today to verify ownership of land and to research family histories. We have made this historic information available with an automated system.

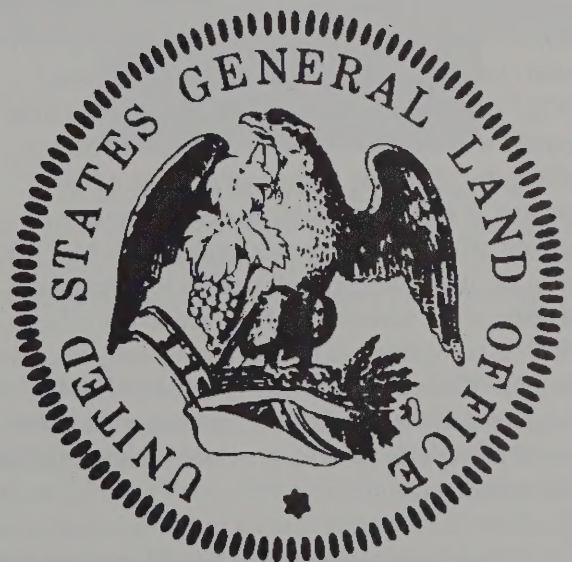
The GLO Records Retrieval System to Internet access allows for on-line query and image display of 1.8 million Federal land patents. The Web site has generated overwhelmingly positive customer support during the first year, generating 11 million data and image requests; 7,772 requests for 26,217 patents found on the Web by customers (more than double the requests made last year, and eight times the patents requested last year). A total of 718,000 visitors have checked out the site. To date, the Web site has taken more than 34 million "hits." This site has been selected to win several prestigious awards, including the Vice President's Hammer Award, the Department's Information Technology Award, the National Science Foundation Award, and the Study Web Academic Excellence Award. The Web site has also received recognition from numerous scientific, educational, and genealogical societies.

The GLO Records Project has entered the second phase of records preservation and automation, involving the automation of the Serial Patents for the 29 Public Land States. The Serial Patent automation process has incorporated the Bureau's LR2000 Status data, allowing the GLO Project staff to validate LR2000 data against the images of the land title documents. Data discrepancies are forwarded to the National Information Resources Management Center in support of LR2000 data cleanup. The first 75,000 Serial Patent records are ready for export to the Web.

We continue to provide technical guidance and support to the States of Florida and Wisconsin in the development of indexing standards for survey plats and field notes.

During the year, we negotiated a Data Exchange Agreement with the State of Indiana Archives to share GLO patent data and automation technology. In exchange, the State of Indiana Archives will add additional fields of data to the GLO database.

We hosted a tour of the GLO Records Project to representatives from the Ukrainian Environmental and Resource Research Institute of Kiev. Through an interpreter, the GLO staff briefly explained the significance of the land patents that are maintained by the BLM and demonstrated state-of-the-art customer service capabilities for accessibility through the GLO Web site.



Cultural Resources

We manage cultural resources that we generally identify in conjunction with proposed land transfers or disposals. For example, the U.S. Coast Guard is in the process of transferring four parcels of land in Minnesota to the Bureau. Each parcel has a lighthouse that is listed in the national Register of Historic Places. The Bureau will determine which agency or organization will assume ownership of the properties and be responsible for the long-term management of each lighthouse.

Southern Illinois University and Milwaukee Field Office personnel recently discovered 5,000-year old human bones while conducting archaeological investigations at an Illinois rockshelter. Under the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA), a Federal agency must consult with the appropriate tribe to determine the disposition of human remains. In coordination with the Illinois State Preservation Agency, and using the map titled "Indian Land Areas Judicially Established 1978," it was determined that the appropriate tribe to contact was the Peoria Tribe of Indians in Miami, Oklahoma. Because of the extreme age of the remains, it was not possible to determine their cultural affiliation. However, under the NAGPRA, when the lineal descendants cannot be determined, custody of the remains can be given to the tribe which is recognized as having aboriginally occupied the area. Custody of the human remains can be transferred to the Peoria Tribe following the publication of newspaper notices, provided no other Indian tribe makes a claim.

Last year, with Eastern States' assistance, the State Historical Society of Wisconsin, Office of School Services, published the book *Learning from the Land: Changes in Land Use in Wisconsin*. The book is part of the State's "New Badger History Series."



The Jackson Field Office continued its NEPA support to the Minerals and Lands Programs, resulting in an additional 66 acres surveyed for cultural resources. The recently completed preliminary inventory of artifacts and accompanying documentation will be transported to Mississippi State University for permanent curation.

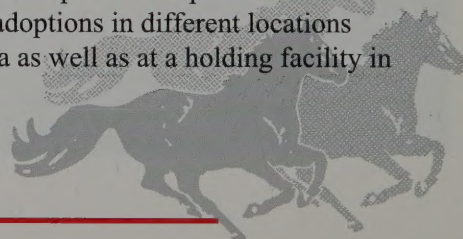
In FY 1999, project work for the Arkansas and Louisiana Planning Analysis/Environmental Assessments (PA/EA) are ongoing with a completion date of December 1999 expected.

Wild Horses & Burros

More than 44,500 wild horses and burros roam public rangelands managed by BLM in the western United States. These wild horses and burros, descended from animals released or escaped from Spanish explorers, ranchers, soldiers, and American Indians, are protected under the Wild Free-Roaming Horse and Burro Act of 1971 as "...living symbols of the historic and pioneer spirit of the West."

Today, BLM manages these animals in 199 herd management areas in 10 Western States. Because the horses and burros are protected by Federal law and have no natural predators, their numbers have increased significantly since 1971. In order to maintain populations at a level that rangelands can support, the BLM gathers excess animals every year and offers them for adoption to qualified individuals.

The Eastern States Wild Horse and Burro Adoption Program is the largest in the Bureau. In FY 1999, we adopted approximately 3,100 wild horses and burros within our 31-State jurisdiction. These animals were adopted to the public at 30 temporary site adoptions in different locations throughout our area as well as at a holding facility in Tennessee.



Programs ...

We have also developed and hosted adoptions on the Internet of animals held at both eastern and western BLM facilities. The Internet adoptions have been extremely successful in adopting animals into good homes and has increased visibility of the Wild Horse and Burro Program. Three successful national Internet adoptions have taken place this year.

We continue to focus on the well-being of animals following adoption by visiting adopters' facilities and their adopted animals. This year, Eastern States' wild horse and burro staff conducted about 1,900 on-the-ground inspections of adopted animals to verify the health, well-being, and treatment of adopted wild horses and burros and also to assist new adopters.

An Internet Success!



"Here is a 'day-after' photo of our boys. I am so amazed and proud!

Adam, my 13-year old son picked out the yearling bay for himself, and named him Sonny. He brushes him all over, even his tail. Sonny just stands there. He follows Adam everywhere. I swear it seems like if Adam sat down, the horse would crawl into his lap."

Karen Jennings

We publicized the program and found many new adopters by promoting wild horses and burros at several equine fairs and expos, such as the Horse World Expo in Maryland, Winter Equine Expo in Virginia, and Equine Affair in Massachusetts. At one of the largest equine fairs in the world, EQUITANA, U.S.A., in Louisville, Kentucky, Eastern States held an adoption in conjunction with three mustang training demonstrations by nationally renowned trainers. This week-long equine fair drew nearly 50,000 and national and international attendees and marked the first time that BLM had been invited to conduct an adoption at such an event.



*Trainer Michael Richardson at
EQUITANA, U.S.A.*

In an effort to listen to our customers, we held a Wild Horse and Burro Focus Group meeting in conjunction with adopters in Virginia. Results of these meetings will help us improve our customer service.

Kentucky Horse Park Exhibit - Earlier this year, we held a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the long-awaited new Wild Horse and Burro exhibit for the Kentucky Horse Park. The educational and interactive exhibit consists of a touch screen multi-media kiosk and four 4 ft x 7 ft murals depicting horses in the wild, wild horse and burro adoptions, and adoption success stories. Approximately 300,000 people visit the famous Kentucky Horse Park each year. We plan to use the exhibit to educate horse enthusiasts from all over the country.

Lands

Our Lands Program is responsible for reviewing and processing all applications for use of, or title to, land in the 13 Public Domain States in the East. The Public Domain consists of lands that were acquired by the Government of the United States by treaty, cession by States, and purchase. The Public Domain States in the East are AL, AR, FL, IL, IN, IA, LA, MI, MN, MS, MO, OH and WI. In these States, our Lands Program is responsible for resolving title transactions and conflicts from ongoing Bureau programs. Responsibilities of this program also include land disposal through sales or transfers and responding to the public and other agency requests for general title information.

In FY 1999, we issued 6 corrections to previously-issued patents, clearing title to 554 acres; issued patents under various authorities conveying title to 204 acres of Public Domain Lands; and conveyed Federally-owned mineral interest underlying 183 acres of privately-owned lands.

Minnesota Public Lands Improvement Act - We are processing 61 remaining claims on purported Public Land islands and uplands in Minnesota.

Red Lake Tribe Land Restoration - We continued to help identify Public Lands within the old Red Lake Reservation boundary to be restored to Tribal ownership. This is being done under the direction of the Secretary of the Interior with the Bureau of Indian Affairs. Approximately 100,000 acres that were free of title conflicts were cleared for restoration to the Tribe. We are now reviewing another group of tracts to determine if title conflicts exist and, if so, how to resolve them.

Recreation and Public Purposes Act (R&PP) Leases - We completed two R&PP leases with Walton County in the Florida Panhandle. The Dune Allen lease will offer beachgoers needed access to approximately 750 feet of beachfront. Other local BLM tracts that have been leased to the county include Miramar Beach, Seagrove Beach and Inlet Beach.

Minerals

The Mineral Management Program is one of our largest programs in Eastern States. It produces significant revenues that are shared with the States from which those revenues are generated. We have more than 4,000 Federal mineral leases in the East, most of which are oil and gas leases, covering about 2.4 million acres in 22 of the 31 Eastern States.

Mineral revenue data for FY 1999 will be available in 2000; however, for FY 1998, we generated \$26.8 million in mineral revenue and returned over \$6.5 million to the States. While oil and gas leasing accounted for most of this revenue, a significant amount of coal, lead, zinc, limestone, clay, quartz and other minerals were also produced from Federal lands in the East.

We offered almost 800 parcels covering over 470,000 acres in 6 States at oil and gas lease sales this year. These sales generated almost \$1.5 million in bonus bids, filing fees, and first-year lease rentals. All of the parcels we offer for lease are nominated by industry. This year, we initiated cooperative environmental analyses with the Finger Lakes National Forest in New York, Huron-Manistee National Forest in Michigan, and Wayne National Forest in Ohio for proposed oil and gas leasing.

Although low oil prices decreased the number of new oil and gas proposals in FY 1999, operators continued to produce from most of the existing oil and gas wells. A major part of our activity in the Oil and Gas Program occurs after the leases are issued. We review and approve all drilling and operations plans. We also inspect drilling and production activities on the ground to ensure that the activities conform to the approved plans and protect the environment.

We are continually working to improve the way we do business. We have mailed over 1,000 customer service comment cards this year. In June, we held our first Oil and Gas Lease Sale Focus Group meeting to improve customer service.

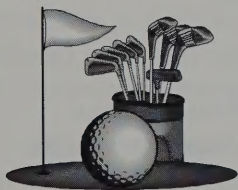
Programs ...

Continuing with a BLM initiative that started in late FY 1997, we conducted 102 in-office reviews of oil and gas production records during the fiscal year. These reviews help ensure that produced oil and gas volumes are being properly reported to the Government. This year, these reviews identified 1.4 billion cubic feet of under-reported gas production and 525 million cubic feet of over-reported gas production. We also found 3,569 barrels of under-reported and 5 barrels of over-reported oil production. These reporting discrepancies were referred to the Minerals Management Service for follow-up action.

Recreation

Capitalizing on our location in the East, we have a big job to reach the more than 68 percent of America's population who live in our jurisdiction. One activity that has become a very popular recreational pastime for thousands of people is attending our wild horse and burro adoptions. At these and other venues, we provide information on western recreation opportunities, such as wilderness river recreation, developed site camping, off-highway vehicle (OHV) use, hunting, fishing, and recreational wildlife watching.

We continued to provide staff support for The First Tee initiative to bring opportunities to urban youth to learn to play golf, explore careers in the golf industry, and encourage environmentally-friendly design and management of golf facilities. We drafted a local multi-party Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to further the goals expressed in the MOU BLM signed with the World Golf Foundation for The First Tee last year.



A highlight of this year's activities was implementing the Lake Vermilion Cooperative Management Plan for a group of small islands in St. Louis County, Minnesota, where BLM manages visitor use and island resources.

Threatened and Endangered Species

In a cooperative effort among the BLM, U.S. Fish & Wildlife, and the Kentucky Department of Fish & Wildlife, over one mile of stream in eastern Kentucky was surveyed because of an application to include additional Federal coal acreage in an existing lease. The survey turned up three federally-endangered backside dace.

As recently as the mid-1980's, Little Clear Creek, in southeastern Kentucky, supported up to 2,000 backside dace. However, increased sediment loads from mining and logging activities were thought to have eliminated the species from the watershed. With the improved sediment control measures now required by both the State and Federal regulatory agencies, it is hoped that Bens Fork and Little Clear Creek will continue to flush accumulated sediments, improving the chances for this small outpost of endangered dace to eventually expand throughout its historic range in the watershed.

Wetlands Restoration

The Jupiter Inlet Natural Area Project, which received \$100,000 in grants from the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation and the South Florida Water Management District, is entering its second phase. Following the removal of hundreds of exotic Australian pine and other invasive vegetation, a detailed engineering plan was developed to construct a tidal wetlands adjacent to the Intracoastal Waterway. This year heavy equipment will remove excess fill material dredged up while deepening the Intracoastal Waterway years ago. By returning the land to a more natural elevation, re-establishing tidal flushing, native mangroves, smooth cordgrass and other salt tolerant native vegetation, BLM and our partners will create a productive wetlands in an area earlier choked with exotic plants. This project is part of a regional effort to protect and improve this diverse south Florida estuary.

Hazmat

We conducted Environmental Site Assessments (ESA) on two lighthouse properties in Michigan. The ESAs were prepared to identify if any hazardous substances or petroleum products were on the property. No chemicals/materials, hazardous waste, dump sites, or underground storage tanks were found. However, there is a possibility that the structures contain lead paint and asbestos due to the age of the structures. This information will supplement other information in preparing Environmental Assessments to determine if the property should be returned to public domain. The lighthouse properties were used to aid navigation and are no longer needed by the U.S. Coast Guard.

Places

Cadastral Survey Cooperative Project Offices

Buffalo National River Project Office - National Park Service - Harrison, Arkansas

Established to survey and monument the boundaries of the Buffalo National River, the first river designated as a national river.

Maine Project Office - Bureau of Indian Affairs - Old Town, Maine

Established to survey and monument the boundaries of land held in trust by the United States for the Passamaquoddy Tribe, the Penobscot Nation, the Houlton Band of Maliseets and the Aroostook Band of MicMacs in various locations in the State of Maine.

Upper Mississippi River Project Office - U.S. Army Corps of Engineers - St. Charles, Missouri

Established to survey and monument the boundaries of Corps of Engineer administered lands for the St. Louis District Office.

National Park Service Surveys - Washington, D.C. Area, Springfield, Virginia

Established to survey and monument a variety of Park Service lands in the National Capital Region. Surveys have been conducted on local battlefields including Manassas, Antietam, and Monocacy Battlefield Parks. Work is also being performed on the Baltimore-Washington Parkway and on other parks in the region.

Lac Courte Oreilles Project Office - Bureau of Indian Affairs, Hayward, Wisconsin

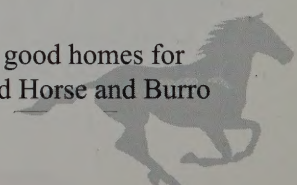
Established to survey and monument the boundaries of land held in trust by the United States on the Lac Courte Oreilles Indian Reservation and other Indian Reservations in northern Wisconsin.

Lorton, Virginia Land Acquisition

We are pursuing acquisition of land in the East to help further public knowledge about important BLM programs. Enactment of the Lorton Technical Corrections Act of 1998 provided the Department of the Interior the opportunity to obtain land at the Lorton Prison Complex in Fairfax County, Virginia, which is scheduled to be closed by late 2001. We are working with the Department of the Interior, General Services Administration, Fairfax County, Congressional Representatives, landowners, and local citizens to identify land for acquisition and possible exchange. Through the exchange we can acquire private property suitable for an environmental/interpretive center to display wild horses and burros and demonstrate BLM's multiple resource management mission.

Lebanon, Tennessee – Wild Horse & Burro Project Office

This year we opened an office in Lebanon, Tennessee to expand efforts to provide good homes for wild horses and burros. The office will provide direct support for the only year-round Wild Horse and Burro Adoption Facility in the Eastern United States, located in Cross Plains, Tennessee.



Budget

We receive most of our operating budget through Congressionally-appropriated funds. Allocations in FY 1999 were:

Funding Levels

(Figures in thousands of dollars)

Energy & Minerals	3,914
Lands & Realty/ Cadastral Survey	3,358
Renewable Resources (including WH&B Program) ..	3,894
Resource Protection	790
General Administration (including lease/space costs)...	3,063
Fire Management	400
Total Budget (Appropriated Funds)	\$15,419

We also receive funding from other sources through partnership agreements. These agreements with public and private partners provide additional funding for work done within the Eastern States' jurisdiction, either on a strictly reimbursable basis or through matching fund arrangements. These projects cover such program areas as wildlife, recreational trails, and cadastral survey (boundary surveys).

Based on actions such as mineral leasing, we collect almost twice as much money as we receive in our annual budget. All of the revenues we generate are sent to the U.S. Treasury, and about half of those revenues are shared with other States. In FY 1998, \$26.8 million dollars were collected (mainly from mineral royalties, rents and bonuses).

1998 Payments in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) and Receipts from Mineral Leases Distributed to States

State	PILT	Entitlement Acres	MINERAL LEASING-Royalties, Rents & Other Revenues	
			State	Federal
Alabama	\$ 295,094	777,771	\$ 988,000	\$1,960,748
Arkansas	1,577,255	3,238,489	1,232,000	3,597,169
Connecticut	13,512	11,798		
Delaware	10,538	14,669		
District of Columbia	5,021	6,924		
Florida	1,404,526	2,384,983	5,000	33,908
Georgia	748,967	1,277,224		
Illinois	330,699	460,393	44,000	67,087
Indiana	279,598	305,569		
Iowa	126,463	174,615		
Kentucky	680,055	1,122,197	169,000	531,680
Louisiana	152,671	732,104	996,000	9,903,892
Maine	95,769	118,347		
Maryland	46,165	42,246		
Massachusetts	40,456	40,155		
Michigan	1,283,420	2,143,170	540,000	1,844,968
Minnesota	804,066	2,897,243	12,000	50,100
Mississippi	399,259	1,629,870	1,122,000	4,517,845
Missouri	1,194,051	2,041,254	861,000	3,187,642
New Hampshire	502,412	743,112		
New Jersey	37,169	39,653		
New York	51,067	59,359		
North Carolina	1,249,349	1,707,811	116	474
Ohio	273,647	343,047	157,000	274,968
Pennsylvania	164,060	655,771	18,000	45,585
Rhode Island	0	5		
South Carolina	233,267	764,744		
Tennessee	709,363	1,161,520		
Vermont	274,890	370,276		
Virginia	1,112,305	2,038,466	72,000	132,889
West Virginia	855,644	1,214,224	282,000	655,959
Wisconsin	279,233	1,302,535	96	426

Partnerships

Girl Scouts



Wild horses have found homes with Girl Scouts in Florida in a partnership that will eventually be implemented nationwide. BLM officials and the National Executive Director with Girl Scouts U.S.A. signed an agreement in October 1998 for using adopted wild horses and burros in Girl Scout Camps. The signing ceremony was held at the



Camp Wildwood Girl Scout Troop

Heart of Florida Girl Scout Council's Camp Wildwood in Wildwood, Florida. The wild horses, after training, are placed into the most popular activity at any Girl Scout camp, the riding program. Already the five mustangs adopted by Camp Wildwood have thrilled young girls from central Florida by providing an exciting time at summer camp. The adopted burros live in an 1800's homestead setting, complete with no modern amenities. At the ceremony, the Girl Scouts performed a drill team riding demonstration on the five wild horses already adopted.

Piney Woods School

We have renewed a 5-year cooperative agreement with Piney Woods School, an historically black boarding school, for furthering minority education in natural resources and emphasizing potential employment with the Bureau. As part of this effort, a BLM employee is available to teach classes and develop programs at the school.

A long-standing partnership between the BLM's Jackson Field Office (JFO) and Piney Woods School in Mississippi has led to establishing a cooperatively-managed Wild Horse and Burro Holding Facility at Piney Woods. The holding facility will provide the JFO with a much-needed holding facility, and it will give students of Piney Woods School the opportunity to experience equine studies. The facility will accommodate up to 14 wild horses and/or burros.

The Piney Woods School's 1999 Envirothon Team, which was coached by two BLM employees, was awarded top honors in the Oral Presentation Competition, and they tied for fourth Place overall in the Mississippi Envirothon. The Team competed against 29 other teams from all



Piney Woods Equestrian Team

over the State. The Mississippi Envirothon is an outdoor, hands-on event that challenges high school students to explore and expand their environmental knowledge, while at the same time giving them the opportunity to investigate related career options.

Corps of Engineers

The Milwaukee Field Office (MFO) and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (COE) are working together to assess and prioritize COE project areas in the northeast for future oil and gas leasing. Expressed operator leasing interest and drainage correction/protection drive the BLM leasing efforts, but the ability of the COE to provide their required input has been compromised by reductions in their funding. We propose to involve the COE District and project-level staff in prioritizing leasing targets before formal planning and environmental analyses begin. This would help to concentrate our efforts on properties which present the greatest opportunities for success at minimum costs. The first "project summary" is under review by the COE's Pittsburgh District.

Lake Vermilion

Implementation of the Lake Vermilion Cooperative Resource Management Plan (CRMP) included partnerships with local residents of the Lake Vermilion area and the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources. Members of two lake associations continued to participate in the Island Stewardship Program. The value of assistance from these island stewards goes well beyond cleaning up litter and providing feedback on recreational and wildlife use of the islands. Equally important is the maintenance of a crucial link between the local recreational users of public islands and our distant BLM office.

Hatfield-McCoy Trail Project

This year the Hatfield-McCoy Trail Project won awards and recognition for trail design and building partnerships. Members of Congress, the American Recreation Coalition, and the Coalition for Recreational Trails recognized the Hatfield-McCoy Trail in the category of long-distance trail design. Also, the Hatfield-McCoy Trail was selected as one of 16 National Millennium Trails by the White House and the Department of Transportation. First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton praised the project's approach of building partnerships with corporate

landowners to create a major recreational trail system. In partnership with Hatfield-McCoy Recreation Development, Inc., BLM employees continued to provide technical expertise in trail design, GPS mapping, and management.

Clean Water

We are currently leading a water quality study for the Dry Creek Field area of the Homochitos National Forest in cooperation with other State and Federal Agencies. The study analyzes whether the ground water in the vicinity of this watershed has been degraded by water disposal activities relating to oil and gas development.

We signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with several other Federal agencies to implement the Clean Water Action Plan in the Mid-Atlantic area. The MOU will strengthen efforts to improve watersheds and address issues of greatest need in the region.

Lighthouses

As part of Eastern States' past policy to dispose of all remnant parcels of public domain under our jurisdiction, we began a resource management plan amendment this year. When it is completed in FY 2000, the plan amendment will enable us to transfer four lighthouse properties formerly owned by the U.S. Coast Guard, and several other small tracts of land located in 6 northern Wisconsin counties. The lighthouse properties will likely remain in public ownership to permanently protect important natural and cultural resources.



The plan will set criteria that must be met in applications for the individual parcels of land. This criteria will be reviewed by the public and analyzed in an environmental assessment prepared under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA). We are also coordinating the plan with several Native American Indian Tribes and the State of Wisconsin.

Partnerships ...

Some of the tracts have created considerable interest from members of the public, non-profit groups and other State, Federal and local government agencies. All of the lighthouses are listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The Cana Island Lighthouse, for example, has become an increasingly important Door County tourist destination.

Plum Island has prehistoric Native American artifacts; Pilot Island has several shipwrecks lying just offshore from it. The islands are also home to several threatened and endangered plant and wildlife species. The area is literally teeming with cultural, historic and recreational resources.

BLM's plan will help finally settle many longstanding land ownership issues. It will also establish the necessary consultations and determinations that must be completed before any property is transferred out of Federal ownership.

Land & Water Conservation Fund

The Land and Water Conservation Fund provides funding to acquire properties that provide recreation opportunities and preservation of habitat for threatened or endangered species. This year we are pursuing four projects:

Crowley's Ridge/Scatter Creek in Arkansas - This area offers unique habitat opportunities for historic interpretation and a wide array of recreational opportunities. Many of the plant species found on Crowley's Ridge have been listed in various studies as species that were rare, uncommon or in need of further evaluation. Much of the surrounding land is currently under land use practices that are detrimental to the preservation of this unique ecosystem. Acquisition of these properties would allow for the restoration and preservation of native floral and faunal communities. Cooperators in this project include Arkansas Game & Fish Commission, National Wild Turkey Federation, and Greene County Wildlife Club.

Copenhagen Hills in Louisiana - This area comprises approximately 1,000 acres. The area acquisition would protect significant paleontological resources, and one of the most botanically significant areas in the state with over 100 species of woody plants recorded to date. The site contains more than 30 plant species considered rare, threatened or endangered in Louisiana, 12 species are known in Louisiana only from this site and at least two species are considered globally rare. From a paleontological standpoint, this site is considered one of the most important sites in the Gulf coastal plain because of its vast tertiary vertebrate deposits.

Point Betsie Lightstation in Michigan - Is a 2.4-acre parcel under relinquishment from the U.S. Coast Guard. The Nature Conservancy owns 101 acres in the surrounding vicinity and plans to protect 527 acres when the preserve is completed. Point Betsie is a sand dune complex located on the northeastern shore of Lake Michigan, and is a popular recreational area for swimming, bird watching, and other activities. The BLM property is heavily used by the public for access to the shoreline.



Point Betsie Lightstation, Pt. Betsie, Michigan

Partnerships/Environmental Education ...

Big Darby Creek in Ohio - Is approximately 25 miles west of Columbus, and drains a watershed of approximately 560 square miles. It is considered to be the healthiest and most diverse aquatic system of its size in the Midwest. The creek harbors 103 species of rare mussels, including the federally listed Northern Riffle Shell. The Nature Conservancy is requesting the BLM assist with the purchase of lands in the headwaters of the Big Darby Creek. This land is immediately threatened by conversion from agricultural-use lands or open space to industrial use.



Big Darby Creek, Ohio

Environmental Education & Communication

Environmental education at Eastern States is designed to communicate the value of caring for the health of the land. We use environmental education as a long-term investment in various programs, including minerals, fisheries, recreation, wildlife management, threatened and endangered species, cultural resources, wild horses and burros, and cadastral surveys to effectively accomplish our program objectives. In FY 1999, these included National Public Lands Day events sponsored by our offices in Virginia, Mississippi and Wisconsin; and wild horse and burro special events at adoptions across our 31 state jurisdiction.

Special minerals education programs in Jackson, Mississippi and Milwaukee, Wisconsin reached literally thousands of students in FY 1999. Children of all ages found geology fun with the help of BLM employees acting out the famous Sherrock Holmes (Jackson) and Ms. Frizzle (Milwaukee).

The great cultural diversity of the East provides many opportunities to embrace urban and minority constituents. Some of these outreach activities in FY 1999 in Jackson, Mississippi included the seventh Annual Environmental Education Camp where for two weeks 35 minority students gained "hands-on" learning about natural resources; the Mississippi Envirothon statewide competition; the Aqua Fair which involves hundreds of elementary

students learning about water quality; Linking Girls to the Land Workshops; the Dixie National Agricultural Fair; Becoming An Outdoors-Woman event; The Outdoor Classroom; school support projects such as an Outdoor Classroom at Vine Street Elementary School; and the statewide Science Olympiad, designed to increase interest in science.

In Milwaukee, Wisconsin participation in various outreach activities included the Midtown Neighborhood Flower Explosion; Milwaukee Sports Show 1999; Lindsay Heights Neighborhood Restoration Project where more than 150 volunteers worked together on a tree planting and a huge clean up; Bring Your Child to Work Day; and Betty Brinn Children's Museum's Big Fourth Birthday Bash where children were offered a "hands-on" experience to learn about fossils.

Environmental education activities in the State Office, in Springfield, Virginia included the third Annual Anacostia River Earth Day Celebration where participants planted trees along the banks of the Anacostia River; Anacostia Rivers Third Annual Urban Environmental Fair where students in grades 5-12 participated in a camping demonstration and a Leave No Trace activity; and the First Annual Natural Resources Career Day at Pine Forge Academy, Pennsylvania, where students received information on careers in natural resource sciences, and camping in the urban environment.

Environmental Education ...

Community service is also very important to all of us here at Eastern States. We are involved in many activities to help our neighbors. Employees

Young volunteers in Milwaukee, Wisconsin help the environment by planting trees.



and their families volunteer four times a year to keep their hometown communities free of litter by participating in the Department of Transportation's Adopt-A-Highway Program. Regularly scheduled Red Cross Blood Drives bring our Eastern States employees and employees from neighboring businesses together for a common goal—to help maintain adequate supplies of precious blood for local blood banks.

In its early stages at America's Outdoors in Milwaukee, plans are underway to develop an Urban Tree House Program for the city of Milwaukee. This program will provide environmental stewardship ethics to youth and increased public awareness, appreciation and ownership of our natural resources. By involving children at a relatively young age in activities and events that teach them about the environment, we hope these youngsters will one day apply what they have learned to their everyday lives and also be inspired to careers in the environmental sciences or natural resource management field.

Fishing Events

The ninth annual State Office Kids' Fishing Day held at Occoquan Regional Park, Lorton, Virginia was once again a big splash! This year approximately 70 students from from the Washington, D.C. area participated in learning more about the aquatic environment and fishing. The kids hit the water with 50 members of the Bass Anglers Sportsmen Society, while volunteers from Kiwanis International and BLM chaperones helped in cooking a barbeque for the kids. A representative from the National Zoo entertained the kids with wild animal educational demonstrations. This event was supported by various national tackle companies, who donated rods and reels, and local food vendors provided the lunch.

Nearly 30 handicapped kids from Anne Arundel County, Maryland, were our guests for the day at the National Fishing Week kick off at Constitution Gardens in Washington, D.C. Fish were jumping on their lines, and the smiles got bigger throughout the day. This was a multiagency effort coordinated by the American Sportfishing Association to bring greater awareness to the joys of recreational fishing in America.



BLM volunteer assists a new fisherman with his casting techniques.

Environmental Education/People ...

The Jackson Field Office hosted its sixth Annual Pathway to Fishing Event at leFleur's Bluff State Park in June. Approximately 75 youth from the Jackson area learned angler ethics and fishing techniques. They then got to try their hand at the "reel" thing. Seven lucky youths won fishing trips with local bass professionals. Partners for this event included the Mississippi Museum of Natural Science and the Jackson Bass Club. For the third year this event will be featured on public television on a program entitled "Mississippi Outdoors."

Heritage Education Project: Through a cooperative agreement signed by the Milwaukee Field Office and the State Historical Society of Wisconsin, Office of School Services, curricular materials on Wisconsin's territorial growth, development and early statehood were developed and published for use by fourth grade teachers/students in a program called *Learning from the Land, Wisconsin Land Use*. Complete sets of texts/teachers' guides were provided to the

Allen-Field School in Milwaukee, Wisconsin for use in fourth grade State History classes. Their review resulted in a product that meets the needs of educators throughout the State of Wisconsin.

The African-American Student Handbook and the Alabama Student Handbook are nearing completion. Essays for the African-American handbook were written by Uzoma Miller, a student at Jackson State University. Essay for the Alabama handbook were submitted through the State Historic preservation Office.

Environmental Education Camp: The Jackson Field Office conducted the seventh annual Environmental Education Camp with 35 minority students from Piney Woods School. The 2-week camp provides academic and "hands-on" natural resource related experience to minority students.

People

Hotshot Crew

The Jackson, Mississippi Hotshot Crew, now in their third year, is part of an elite organization of fire fighters. In fact, they are the only BLM sponsored Hotshot Crew in the Eastern United States. The Crew consists of 20 members, who must pass several rigorous physical fitness tests prior to deployment to fight fire. This year, the Deputy Director for BLM and our own State Director participated in the crew training in Jackson, Mississippi. The Crew was first deployed to the Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge/Osceola National Forest, and from there traveled to southern Nevada for pre-positioning for the summer fire season.

Customer Service

We are committed at Eastern States to improving the quality of service that we provide to our customers and to the many stakeholders and partners who are interested in the public lands. To improve customer service, we are continually surveying our customers to evaluate how well we are meeting our commitment.



State Director Tipton (far left)
Deputy Director Hatfield (center), Duane Winters
from JFO, and Bruce Dawson Jackson, MS Field
Manager easily qualified to be on the fire line.

People ...

We put together our first Customer Service Action Plan which we used to address customer concerns and to increase comment card issuance and response rates. Currently, we are making progress by providing comment cards for our major programs, which include wild horses and burros, oil and gas, information access, recreation and education, and mining.

We held two focus groups this year — one for the Wild Horse and Burro Program in Lexington, Kentucky and one for Oil and Gas Lease Sales in Springfield, Virginia. We hope to gain a better understanding of our public's concerns about these programs and our processes from the input we received from the volunteers who participated in these focus groups.

This year at America's Outdoors in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, the BLM, National Park Service, and U.S. Forest Service jointly finalized the America's Outdoors Service First Action Plan to better serve the customers of America's Outdoors. With the plan in place, we hope to continue assisting the public with questions and helping them become more knowledgeable about public lands and the need to take pride in these lands through urban conservation and environmental education information and services. The center began in 1996 as a one-stop shopping center for recreation information on Federal Public Lands.

Volunteers

With more and more duties being delegated to employees, and with fewer dollars available each year to perform important tasks, the use of volunteers to supplement our workforce has become a key component of completing our work. Volunteers help in a variety of ways, especially in the popular Adopt-A-Horse or Burro Program. They are always willing to bring there previously wild horse or burro to an adoption to show off for the public or the media. Volunteers are assisting us spread the word about the new General Land Office Web site. We have volunteers traveling around the Eastern States attending Genealogical Conferences explaining how

they can use our system. Volunteers are always on-hand to help us with special projects such as Adopt-A-Highway, Public Lands Appreciation Day, Kids' Fishing Day, Environmental Education Camps, and even watching over our lighthouses. We could not have accomplished our mission without the help of generous volunteers willing to devote their time and efforts to our agency.

We were very excited to have an award winning couple receive the BLM's 1999 Making A Difference National Volunteer Award. Walt and Melody Gentry from Mt. Vernon, Illinois have been educating the public about the BLM's Adopt-A-Wild Horse or Burro Program for the past 8 years. They have traveled over 30,000 miles to assist with activities associated with 50 adoptions in the



National Award Winners pose with (left to right) Associate State Director Gwen Mason, Walt and Melody Gentry, State Director Hord Tipton, and Milwaukee Field Office Manager Jim Dryden.

Eastern United States. They have participated in more than 360 television, radio, and newspaper interviews, distributed over 5,000 posters, and have used some of their own 18 adopted wild horses to compete in horse shows and endurance competitions.

Technology

World Wide Web

Internet activities at Eastern States reached new heights during FY 1999. Our Wild Horse and Burro Internet Adoption Web site continues to help find good homes for these valuable animals with their great historic lineage. The site received 175,000 "hits" in the first 12 months of on-line activity and, to date, continues to receive about 500 "hits" per day. Since being on-line, we have held 4 Internet Adoptions, 3 of them this year, and successfully adopted 84 animals. We are also using the Internet to feature some of the animals that will be available at on-site adoptions. You can reach the adoption site by accessing www.adoptahorse.blm.gov.

The General Land Office Records Web site at www.glorerecords.blm.gov has enjoyed tremendous activity since its debut in May 1998. More than two million historic land documents, once only accessible through manual research, are now available via the world wide web to anyone, anywhere. Genealogists, historians, librarians and web surfers have scrutinized that data and images of more than 11 million official documents.

Our BLM Eastern States Kids' Page went on-line in December 1998. The site was designed to educate and entertain young people, ages 9 through 14. We are proud to have the first BLM Internet Web page oriented specifically towards young people. This Web page highlights many of the Bureau's nationwide programs with emphasis on Eastern States, careers, and special environmental education events. You can reach the site at www.blm.gov/eso/kids_new/index.html.

WH&B CD-ROM

Using cutting edge technology, the Jackson Field Office completed the Wild Horse and Burro interactive CD-ROM for home computers. The program pulls together the most comprehensive collection of photos and video footage ever gathered on one of the Bureau's most visible programs in a cutting edge multi-media medium. The CD-ROM will be distributed nation-wide to interest individuals, schools, libraries, 4-H clubs, etc.

Awards

This year we have been the recipient of several prestigious awards recognizing our programs and projects. A brief list of those awards is:

- BLM-ES received the Walter Mess Service Award from the Northern Virginia Regional Park Authority for outstanding contributions during National Public Lands Day, 1996-1998.
- The Hatfield-McCoy Trail Project received the Department of Transportation's Award for best long-distance trail.
- Piney Woods School won first place in the Oral Presentation and tied for fourth overall in the Mississippi statewide Envirothon Competition.

General Land Office (GLO)

- Presented with Vice President Al Gore's National Performance Review Hammer Award. The award was received for the Team's creation of an Internet on-line research tool for public land managers, historians, surveyors, and genealogists.
- Received the Department's Information Technology Award for an innovative program that has preserved historical documents while providing easy electronic access.
- Selected as a featured site in StudyWeb as one of the best educational resources on the Web.
- Received the National Science Foundation's Scout Award which is a weekly publication that highlights newly discovered Internet resources.

Wild Horse & Burro (WH&B) Program

- Best Internet Business Site Award at the BLM National Web Conference.
- The new WH&B interactive CD-ROM placed second in the Enterprise Awards Program, a national competition held at EQUITANA, U.S.A.
- Eastern States Volunteers, Walt and Melody Gentry won the BLM's 1999 Making A Difference National Volunteer Award for their support of the Adopt-A-Horse or Burro Program.

Eastern States Headquarters Office
7450 Boston Boulevard
Springfield, Virginia 22153
(703) 440-1713

Jackson Field Office
411 Briarwood Drive, Suite 404
Jackson, Mississippi 39206
(601) 977-5400

Milwaukee Field Office
310 W. Wisconsin Avenue, Suite 450
Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53203
(414) 297-4400

Division of Solid Minerals, Rolla
901 Pine Street, Suite 201
Rolla, Missouri 65401
(573) 364-0203

www.es.blm.gov

Management Listing

State Director **W. Hord Tipton**
Associate State Director **Gwen Mason**
Chief of External Affairs **Terry Lewis**
WH&B Program Manager **Jinx Fox**
Environmental Ed. Coord. **Charles Bush**
Deputy State Director for **Walt Rewinski**
Resources, Planning, Use
and Protection
Deputy State Director for **Ron Fox**
Business Practices
Deputy State Director for **Steve Kopach**
Cadastral Survey & GLO
Records Project
Jackson, Mississippi **Bruce Dawson**
Field Manager
Milwaukee, Wisconsin **Jim Dryden**
Field Manager
Rolla, Missouri **Vince Vogt**
Assistant Field Manager

Guardians of the Past — Stewards of the Future

**U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management
Eastern States Office
7450 Boston Boulevard
Springfield, Virginia 22153**



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